THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY FO PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLIMENTATION (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. A proposal for reconstituting the Island Development Authority with revised composition is under consideration and it is expected that the reconstituted IDA would meet shortly.

(d) Does not apply.

Phased Manufacturing programme for Drug Companies

193. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the phased manufacturing programme has not been adhered to by several drug manufacturing companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) and (b). Under the provisions of the Drug Policy 1986, bulk drugs are required to be manufactured as per the starting stages prescribed for them. Where there are constraints regarding technology etc. to avoid the import of the finished bulk drug, stages are relaxed for specified periods.

(c) Does not arise.

Effect of Withdrawal of Subsidy on Fertilizer and Decontrol of Urea

194. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the withdrawal of subsidy on fertilizer and the decontrol of urea have hit the working of many fertilizer units;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) whether the decontrol of prices has been of any help to the manufacturers; and

(d) the number of worst affected units therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) Most of the fertilizers still continue to be subsidized, excepting three low nutrient fertilizers, namely, Calcium Ammonium Nitrate (CAN), Ammonium Chloride (ACL), and Ammonium Sulphate (AS). In addition, Sulphate of Potash (SOP), which is wholly imported and whose consumption is very low, has also decontrolled. There has been no de-control of Urea.

(b) The three fertilizers viz. CAN, ACL and AS have been de-controlled in view of the fact that they were low nutrient fertilizers and the subsidy payable per tonne of nutrients was very high. Besides, all the low nutrient fertilizers contribute 3.5% of the total nitrogenous fertilizer production in the country.

(c) De-control was not intended for helping the manufacturers.

(d) Two units, which are manufacturing one of the three de-controlled low nutrient fertilizers, have reported that they would suffer financially.

Rise in Price of Medicines

195. SHRI. GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether prices of many essential